

SEPA IWG Meeting Summary
Wednesday, July 23, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Teleconference

AttendanceCo-Leads:

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| Jim Lopez | King County |
| Dick Settle | Foster Pepper |
| Jeannie Summerhays | Washington Department of Ecology |

Members and Alternates:

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| Jayson Antonoff | City of Seattle, Dept of Planning & Development |
| Greg Carrington | Chelan PUD |
| Anthony Chavez | Weyerhaeuser |
| Sean Cryan | Mithun |
| Valerie Grigg Devis | Dept. of Community, Trade, and Economic Development |
| Jennifer Dold | Bricklin, Newman, Dold, LLP |
| Ann Farr* | Washington Public Ports Association |
| Kari-lynn Frank | National Association of Industrial and Office Properties |
| Hilary Franz | Bainbridge City Council |
| Mark Kulaas | Douglas County |
| Dan McGrady | Vulcan |
| T.C. Richmond | GordenDerr Attorneys at Law |
| Carol Lee Roalkvam** | Washington Department of Transportation |
| Tim Trohimovich | Futurewise |
| Tayloe Washburn | Foster Pepper |
| Perry Weinberg | Sound Transit |
| Jim Wilder | Jones & Stokes |

**Alternative for John Mohr, Port of Everett*

***Alternative for Megan White, Washington Department of Transportation*

Absent:

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| Connie Krueger | City of Leavenworth |
| Bill Messenger | Washington Labor Council |
| John Mohr | Port of Everett (Alternate present) |
| Michael Robinson-Dorn | UW Law School |
| David Troutt | Nisqually Tribe |
| Clay White | Stevens County |
| Megan White | Washington Department of Transportation (Alternate present) |

Technical and Facilitation Support:

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| Hedia Adelman | Washington Department of Ecology |
| Tom Beierle | Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting, Ltd. |
| Patty Betts | Washington Department of Natural Resources |
| Roma Call | Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting, Ltd. |
| Susan Drummond | Foster Pepper |
| Fred Greef | Washington Department of Natural Resources |
| Kurt Hart | Washington Department of Ecology |

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| Matt Kuharic | King County |
| Jonathan Olds | Washington Department of Transportation, Ferries |
| Annie Szvetcz | Washington Department of Ecology |
| Laura Watson | Washington Attorney General's Office |

Background Documents available online at

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/2008CAT_iwg_sepa.htm

Discussion Items and Key Issues

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - 1.1. Tom Beierle welcomed members, technical staff and the public to the meeting.
 - 1.2. IWG members and staff introduced themselves.
 - 1.3. SEPA IWG Co-Leads thanked members and technical staff for their continued good work, particularly in completing the homework assignments over the past few weeks.
2. Climate Action Team and Working Group Updates
 - 2.1. Tom reminded the IWG that the next CAT meeting is on Friday, July 25. SEPA Co-lead and CAT member Jim Lopez will provide a status update on the activities of the SEPA IWG to the CAT. The CAT will review several cross-cutting issues that have potential connectivity with SEPA, including:
 - “Climate-Friendly Development”, which encompasses a number of issues being discussed in several different workgroups. SEPA IWG member Tayloe Washburn, who is also on the Land Use Climate Change Committee (LUCC), has made a proposal to LUCC about GMA and potential connectivity to SEPA, and in particular, SEPA Bucket 3. As these discussions advance, there may be connectivity back to the SEPA IWG. SEPA IWG members with ideas on Bucket 3 should respond to an email that Brendan McFarland sent to the group.
 - A quantification/analysis coordination group of state staff and technical support, including those connected to the SEPA IWG, will be forming to cross-coordinate on measurement issues and tool development.
 - Several workgroups are discussing incentives for green buildings that may link to SEPA work on measuring and incentives for construction projects.
 - 2.2. Co-lead Dick Settle provided an overview of the update he gave of the SEPA IWG activities at the House Ecology and Parks Committee hearing on HB 2815 on July 21. Representatives from each climate workgroup provided a progress update to the committee.
 - 2.3. Tayloe provided an update on the LUCC group, which has met twice and completed homework assignments to determine the priorities for the group. The next LUCC meeting will be on August 6.
 - 2.4. Tom briefly described the SEPA voting procedure document, which codifies an earlier discussion by the IWG about decision-making. To the extent possible, the IWG will focus on finding solutions that most members can support. If voting is needed, it will be announced on the agenda. To the extent feasible, all options to be voted on will be developed and made available prior to the meeting. Throughout the process, the co-leads and facilitator will continue to take informal straw polls to get a “sense of the group” and identify where additional work is needed or consensus is emerging.
 - 2.5. Sean Cryan and Jim Wilder provided a brief update on the work of the measurement tools subgroup:

- The group has been collecting information about how to use the criteria that were presented in the matrix at the last SEPA IWG meeting. The goal is to specify what an ideal tool might look like and to evaluate available tools using those criteria.
 - An IWG member asked if California has selected specific measurements tools. California has not specified a tool; instead, the California materials indicate that no one tool is applicable in every situation. King County, has presented a tool as part of its protocol, but the tool is default; similar to the approach used in Massachusetts and California, applicants can present their own methodology.
 - The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is currently developing a community protocol and municipal protocol; Tim Wilder has posted a paper on SharePoint with links to the CARB site.
 - Hedia Adelsman (Ecology) noted that Ecology's Air Program intends to provide guidance about measuring, tracking, and reporting emissions as part of developing the mandatory emissions reporting rules.
 - The SEPA IWG will discuss measurement and tools at the next meeting in early August.
- 2.6. Anthony Chavez from Weyerhaeuser, has joined the SEPA IWG. Anthony is also a member of the EEGB IWG.

3. What do we measure?

- 3.1. SEPA technical staff Annie Szvetcz (Ecology) provided an overview of a table summarizing the types of emissions being measured by CA, MA, King County, and other entities. This table is in draft form, and the information from CA, MA, and King County is not readily available. Observations by members included:
- SEPA is vague about what types/sources of impacts need to be evaluated. To the extent these sideboards exist, the "rule of reason" applies with regards to how extensively potential impacts need to be characterized.
 - Criteria to consider include being cognizant about double counting, assessing the cost and practicality of measuring, and assessing at what stage measurement occurs.
 - Updates to the table were suggested: integrate scope 1, 2 and 3 nomenclature into the final column for TCR, flag which pieces are mandatory instead of optional, and where there are blanks that indicate unknowns, insert a question mark.
 - Members with any additional information from King County, TCR, CalCOA, and Massachusetts should send it to Annie.
 - The table will be a working document that will be refined over time.
- 3.2. Hilary Franz and Jim Wilder presented "broad" and "narrow" option for measuring, and a draft set of criteria for evaluating emission types. Hilary and Jim proposed a list of test cases to apply the narrow, intermediate, and broad criteria in order to see what the outcome under the different scenarios might be. The IWG discussed the proposal and offered comments:
- The group decided that additional conversation and refinement of the criteria at the Bucket 1 level was the appropriate next step. A conversation between those who have been involved with the "what to measure" discussion, Bucket 1 members, and any other interested IWG members will be convened by the end of the week in order to develop refine the set of criteria, approach, and list of test cases by Friday.
 - Members should forward any particular projects or project types they would like to recommend as test cases.

4. Threshold Determination

- 4.1. The threshold team has met to develop details around options related to the three possible approaches to statewide consistency to threshold determination discussed at the last SEPA face to face meeting. Each option has a different level of discretion for local agencies:
 - A statewide standard or guidance;
 - A state-wide framework (possibly including a range of possible standards); and
 - A procedural requirement that local agencies develop their own standards.
 - 4.2. The threshold team described the options, and members asked questions and offered observations. Whether the recommendation would be in the form of rules or guidance, and whether options will be mandatory or voluntary, has not yet been determined.
 - 4.3. The SEPA IWG will continue to discuss how much discretion should be proposed. The SEPA IWG suggested that the possibilities for option 2 have not been fully enumerated. The subgroup will be convened to flesh out options 1 and 2, and to refine Appendix A, in preparation of a straw poll of IWG members. Members should send Tom the questions they would like answered before they take the straw poll by Friday at 10:00 a.m.
5. Other SEPA work
- 5.1. Laura Watson (AG) will work with Tom to convene the Bucket 2 group to further discuss ideas that can move forward in parallel, and may be connected to the items being addressed as part of the Bucket 1 work.

Steps Forward

- Members should send suggested additions to the emissions summary table. Annie Szvetcz will update the table based on the discussion and additional input from members.
- The “What we Measure” subgroup will be convened as soon as possible to further discuss criteria and test cases.
 - Members should send Tom any ideas for criteria or test cases by 10:00 a.m. Friday, and let Tom know if interested in being included in the subgroup conversation.
- The Threshold Determination subgroup will also be convened as soon as possible to refine options and Appendix A.
 - Members should send Tom any ideas or input they have for the subgroup by 10:00 a.m. Friday, and let Tom know if interested in being included in the conversation.
- Laura Watson (AG) will work with Tom to convene a call with the Bucket 2 workgroup to discuss additional ideas that might move forward.

Next Meeting

The next SEPA IWG meeting will be a teleconference on August 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.